

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-~~64~~⁴⁴ (cancelled)

⁴⁵~~65~~. (new) A method of providing a monomer mixture, the method comprising:
providing a reaction mixture comprising

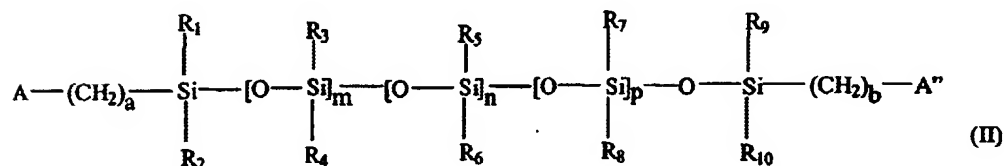
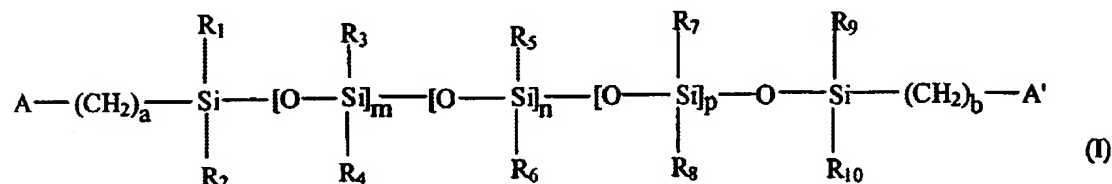
at least one cyclic siloxane,

at least one trialkyl siloxane end capping agent, and

a catalyst; and

reacting the reaction mixture to provide

(a) a mixture of polysiloxane prepolymers represented by formulae (I) and (II):



wherein:

each A and A' is an activated unsaturated radical;

A'' is an alkyl group;

each R₁-R₁₀ is independently an alkyl, fluoroalkyl, alcohol, ether, or fluoroether group having 1-10 carbons, or an aromatic group having 6-18 carbons;

each m, n, and p are independently 0 to 200, m+n+p being from about 23 to 200;

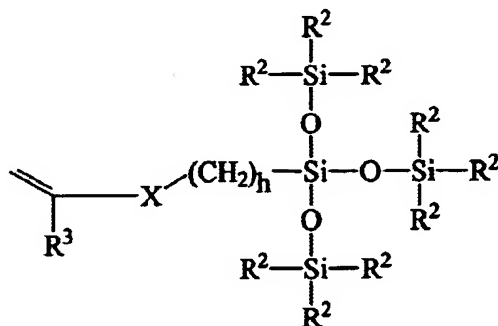
each a is 1 to 10; and

each b is 0 to 10.

⁴⁶₆₆. (new) The method of claim ⁴⁵₆₅, further comprising the step of adding a hydrophilic monomer to the mixture of polysiloxane prepolymers.

⁴⁷₆₇. (new) The method of claim ⁴⁵₆₅, further comprising the step of adding a monofunctional, ethylenically unsaturated silicone-containing monomer to the mixture of polysiloxane prepolymers.

⁴⁸₆₈. (new) The method of claim ⁴⁷₆₇, wherein the monofunctional, ethylenically unsaturated silicone-containing monomer is represented by the formula:



wherein:

X denotes -COO-, -CONR⁴-, -OCOO-, or -OCONR⁴- where each where R⁴ is independently H or lower alkyl; R³ denotes hydrogen or methyl; h is 1 to 10; and each R² independently denotes a lower alkyl radical, a phenyl radical or a radical of the formula



wherein each R⁵ is independently a lower alkyl radical or a phenyl radical.

⁴⁹₆₉. (new) The method of claim ⁴⁸₆₈, wherein the monofunctional, ethylenically unsaturated silicone-containing monomer includes methacryloxypropyl tris(trimethylsiloxy)silane.

⁵⁰
70. (new) The method of claim ⁴⁶68, wherein the hydrophilic monomer includes an acrylic-containing monomer.

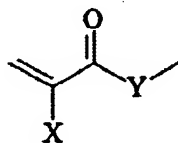
⁵¹
71. (new) The method of claim ⁵⁰70, wherein the hydrophilic monomer includes N,N-dimethyl acrylamide.

⁵²
72. (new) The method of claim ⁴⁶68, wherein the hydrophilic monomer includes a vinyl-containing monomer.

⁵³
73. (new) The method of claim ⁵²72, wherein the hydrophilic monomer includes N-vinyl pyrrolidone.

⁵⁴
74. (new) The method of claim ⁴⁶68, wherein the hydrophilic monomer includes at least one member selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethyl acrylamide and N-vinyl pyrrolidone.

⁵⁵
75. (new) The method of claim ⁴⁵65, wherein in Formulae (I) and (II), each A and A' is a radical represented by the formula:



wherein X is hydrogen or methyl, and Y is -O- or -NH-.

⁵⁶
76. (new) The method of claim ⁵⁵75, wherein A'' is methyl.

⁵⁷
77. (new) The method of claim ⁵⁵75, wherein in Formulae (I) and (II), each R₁-R₁₀ is an alkyl or a fluoroalkyl group.

⁵⁸
78. (new) The method of claim ⁵⁷77, wherein in Formulae (I) and (II), each R₁-R₁₀ is methyl.

⁵⁹
79. (new) The method of claim ⁵⁷77, wherein in Formulae (I) and (II), each m+n+p is within the range of 25 to 50.

⁶⁰
80. (new) The method of claim ⁵⁷77, wherein the prepolymer of Formula (II) is present at 1 to 70 mole % based on total mole % of the Formulae (I) and (II) prepolymers.

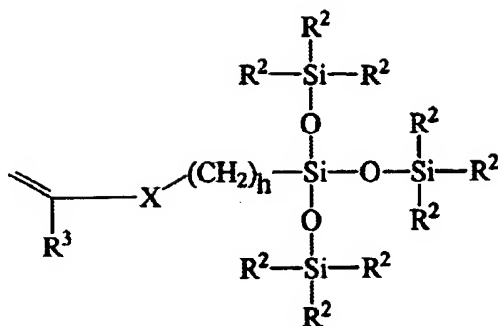
⁶¹
81. (new) The method of claim ⁶⁰80, wherein the prepolymer of Formula (II) is present at 25 to 50 mole % based on total mole % of the Formulae (I) and (II) prepolymers.

⁶²
82. (new) The method of claim ⁶¹81, wherein the prepolymer of Formula (II) is present at 40 to 50 mole % based on total mole % of the Formulae (I) and (II) prepolymers.

⁶³
83. (new) A method of providing a hydrogel, the method comprising subjecting the monomer mixture of claim ⁴⁶80 to polymerizing conditions.

⁶⁴
84. (new) The method of claim ⁶³83, further comprising the step of adding a monofunctional, ethylenically unsaturated silicone-containing monomer to the monomer mixture prior to subjecting the monomer mixture to polymerizing conditions.

⁶⁵
85. (new) The method of claim ⁶⁴84, wherein the monofunctional, ethylenically unsaturated silicone-containing monomer is represented by the formula:



wherein:

X denotes -COO-, -CONR⁴-, -OCOO-, or -OCONR⁴- where each where R⁴ is independently H or lower alkyl; R³ denotes hydrogen or methyl; h is 1 to 10; and each R² independently denotes a lower alkyl radical, a phenyl radical or a radical of the formula



wherein each R⁵ is independently a lower alkyl radical or a phenyl radical.